

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

I disapprove, and am vetoing and filing with the Secretary of State House Bill 757.

This bill was basically designed to authorize counties to contract with some already established Bar association or non-profit group (which has for its purpose the providing of timely, effective assistance of counsel for the indigent accused of crime) to assist the courts in providing timely and effective assistance of counsel. While I do not question the primary purpose of the Act, I am concerned about a provision in it. Section 6 (a) of the bill provides in part:

"In the event the contracting entity employs, hires, or retains faculty members of schools or colleges of law or law students, or both, for the purpose of performing any of its functions whether or not in fulfillment of the purposes of this contract and regardless of the source of funds, the contracting entity shall first retain, hire, or employ law students or law faculty, or both as the case may be, in state-maintained and supported law schools, if any, located in the county of the contracting commissioners. If there is no such law school in the county, then the applicants shall be selected from such law schools, if any, located in the county in which the contracting entity is located."

This provision clearly and obviously requires discrimination against private law schools where they are located in the same area with state-supported law schools.

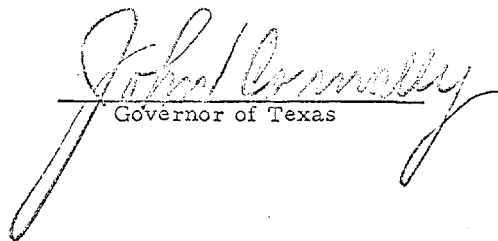
I have outlined on many occasions what I considered to be the valuable and useful role played by our private educational institutions in this state. These private institutions relieve part of the State's burden and responsibility for educating the people of this state. Were it not for the existence of private institutions, our state government would be required to increase both the number and the size of our state-supported higher educational institutions.

Certainly this is true with regard to law schools. I would note that of the seven law schools presently in existence and in operation in this state, four are private and only three are state-supported.

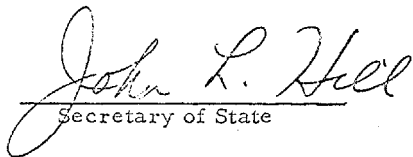
Because of this obvious and unjustified discrimination against private law schools, I am opposed to the bill, and, therefore, veto it.

House Bill 757 was received in the Governor's Office on May 29, 1967, less than 10 days prior to the adjournment of the Regular Session of the 60th Legislature and in accordance with Article IV, Section 14 of the Constitution of Texas, the Bill, together with this Proclamation, is filed with the Secretary of State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I
have hereunto signed my name
officially and caused the seal
of State to be affixed hereto at
Austin this 13 day of June,
1967.


Governor of Texas

By the Governor:


Secretary of State